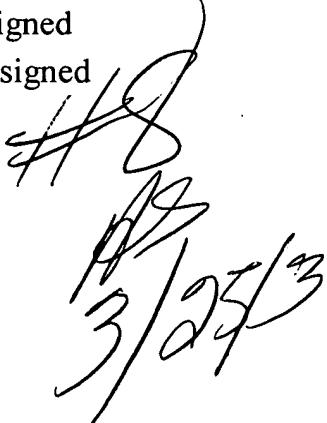


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420 AS&D PCT/PTO 27 JAN 2000
PATENT

MAT-7886US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: T. Hashimoto et al. : Art Unit: To Be Assigned
Serial No.: To Be Assigned : Examiner: To Be Assigned
Filed: Herewith :
FOR: BATTERY PLATE AND :
BATTERY :

3/25/3

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

References 56-57261, 7-135023, and 8-190912 are not in the English language, but English abstracts thereof are attached to the copy of each reference submitted herewith. The remaining enclosed references are also not in the English language, but were cited by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of this Japanese language search report, indicating the degree of relevance determined by the foreign patent

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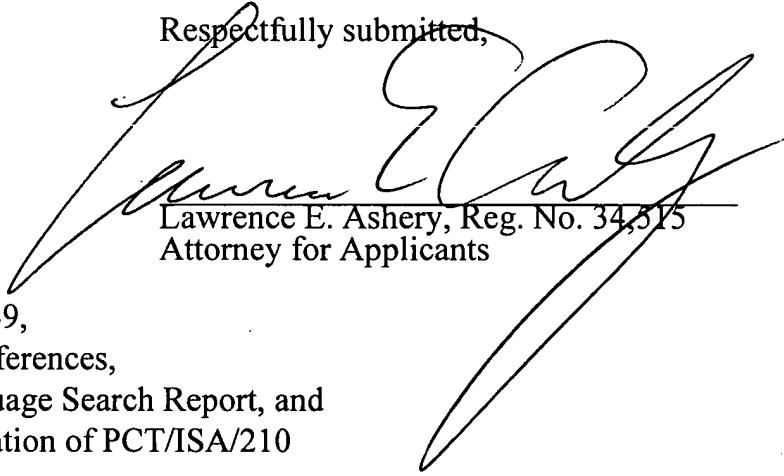
- 2 -

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office is submitted herewith. Also enclosed is an English translation of Form PCT/ISA/210 to explain the special category definitions of the Japanese language search report.

This information disclosure statement is being filed with the above-referenced application. No fee or certification is required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,315
Attorney for Applicants

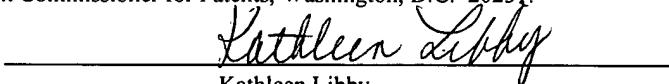
Encls.: PTO Form 1449,
Copy of (6) References,
Japanese Language Search Report, and
English Translation of PCT/ISA/210

Dated: January 27, 2000

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Date of Deposit: January 27, 2000

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.


Kathleen Libby